

Salat Janaza

Preparing the deceased

It is recommended to be present with someone exhibiting signs of death, to remind him of the statement: “La ilaha illa-l-lah.” This is in accordance with the Prophet’s statement: “Instruct your deceased ones (terminally ill) to say “La ilaha illa-l-lah.” [Source: Muslim.]

Thus when he finally succumbs to death, his eyes should be closed. He should then be covered with a cloth, quickly shrouded and prepared for the funeral prayer, and finally buried.

Ruling on bathing, shrouding and burying the deceased

Bathing, shrouding, carrying, praying over and burying the deceased is fardh kifayah (a collective obligation); when enough people do this obligation, the remaining people are relieved of the sin of not performing it.

Rulings on Bathing the Deceased

It is important to choose, for the purpose of bathing the deceased, someone that -1
is trusted, just and knowledgeable about the rulings of the funeral bath.

Priority is given to the person appointed or entrusted by the deceased (before his -2
death), then the relatives according to their closeness, on the condition that such a person knows the rulings of the bath; otherwise a more knowledgeable person is chosen for the task.

A man bathes men and a woman bathes women, and any of a married couple can -3
statement to A’ishah (may Allah be bathe the other. This is due to the Prophet’s pleased with her): “You would not be harmed if you were to die before me, as I would wash you, shroud you, pray over you and thereafter bury you.” [Source: Ibn Majah.]